

# Membership

*Max Ray Alford, AAFA #0230, Membership Chair & DNA Project Officer*

Since the implementation of the no dues policy, we have had eleven new members to join our Association. That is only five fewer than joined in all of 2011. We do hope that eliminating the dues requirement will encourage more of the world's Alford population to join our little group but only time will tell.

We do hope that all of you with access to the Internet have visited the AAFA web site at [www.alfordassociation.org](http://www.alfordassociation.org). There are all kinds of Alford data on the web site. And when we say "Alford," we are including all the different spelling variations. Some one is posting new data to the web site almost daily. The amazing thing about the whole process is the majority of the people involved knew next to nothing about editing or adding to a web site prior to working on the AAFA web site. The first AAFA web site was started by member Kim Savage on a server that belongs to a business owned by member Jimmie Alford. Kim had a background dealing with web sites so she was not a newbie when she started the AAFA site. She did a fantastic job of getting it up and running. Member lineages was a feature in the first AAFA quarterly and early on we had a page called "Member Ahnentafels" on the web site. After Kim, Stephanie Alford had the reins for a while. It was during this time that the site was moved from Jimmie's server to a commercial web hosting service where it has remained ever since. Stephanie had to give it up to go back to college. For a short time, Cindy Kuhn from a Chapman Family Association, AAFA's sister organization, volunteered to help us out. Most of her time was taken by her job and the Chapman Family Association so she finally dropped out. AAFA member, the late Morris Myers, whose career involved computers took over as webmaster. He improved the site and worked really hard at it. However, his job was very demanding and the time

he could devote to the AAFA site was limited. Unfortunately, Morris passed away unexpectedly in March 2006.

After Morris, no one came forward to assume control of the web site for over a year. Then a couple of our members took the bull by the horns and jumped right into the middle of maintaining the site. Without any formal training they started updating and adding tons of data to the site. Others who have since joined the effort. None of these members have had any formal training in dealing with web sites yet all jumped in to do their best when things seemed desperate.

Although member lineages (Ahnentafels) were a feature of the site no effort had been made to include all members. The page was renamed "Members List" and a effort was made to include all new members, but by 2007 when this change was made we already had over 1200 members. To make matters worse AAFA had been operating, until about 2001, with attention only to persons name "Alford" and not including Alford descendants of female Alford. Although our Members List included the names of all members, at the beginning of this year we had two big gaps: (1) information on the descendants of female Alford and (2) lineages of the many members from before member 1200 that had not been added to the list.

Early this year we set a goal to have the "Members List" as complete and up to date as possible by the end of the year. In addition to adding the lineage and a link to it we have also been adding links to the applicable branch genealogy and a Y-DNA notation.

Now! We really need your help. Go to [www.alfordassociation.org/tafels.html](http://www.alfordassociation.org/tafels.html) and FIND your name or number and tell us what is wrong or missing.

## New Member Lineages

**#1400 John Walter Casall, Jr.**

**NEE789NC/JAM687VA**

**Georgetown, TX**

1. **John Walter Casall, Jr.** #14770 b. private, Brooklyn Kings Co., NY, m. **Priscilla M. Lindley** #35339.

### Parents

2. **John Walter Casall** #14769 b. Aug 2 1922, Brooklyn Kings Co., NY, m. **3. Wanda Rae Alford** #12776, b. Aug 2 1922, Rising Star, Eastland Co., TX, d. Jul 3 1989, Ingleside, San Patricio Co., TX. John died Jul 3 1989, Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co., TX.

### Grand Parents

6. **Benjamin Frank Alford** #8516 b. Jan 9 1898, Rising Star, Eastland Co., TX, m. Aug 21 1918, in Brownwood, Brown Co., Texas, **7. Vera Elizabeth Bowden** #8517, b. Oct 25 1899, Clio, Brown Co., TX, d. Oct 9 2000, Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co., TX, buried: Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co., TX. Benjamin died May 26 1981, Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co., TX, buried: Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co., TX.

### Great Grand Parents

12. **Jacob Lawhorn Alford** #8361 b. Jul 19 1864, Groesbeck, Limestone Co., TX, m. (1) Jun 19 1884, in Brown Co., TX, **13. Twillie Camilla Gibson** #8363, b. Oct 1 1867, Ashly Co., AR, d. Nov 21 1914, Rising Star, Eastland Co., TX, buried: Rising Star Cemetery, Eastland Co., TX, m. (2) Dec 4 1918, Carrie Davis #12739, b. Dec 28 1871, d. Mar 6 1933. Jacob died Jun 11 1942, Gorman, Eastland Co., Texas, buried: Rising Star Cemetery, Eastland Co., TX.

### Great Great Grand Parents

24. **Jesse Powell Alford** #8329 b. Dec 20 1828, Louisiana, m. (1) Jul 24 1849, in Milam, Sabine Co., TX, **25. Harriet Crawford** #8330, b. Sep 10 1834, d. Mar 10 1885, buried: Pleasant Valley Cem., Brown Co., TX, m. (2) Jul 28 1886, in Coleman Co., TX, Cornelia Crawford #8331, b. Aug 7 1836, d. Aug 2 1890, m. (3) Mar 12 1891, in Sabine Parish, LA, Tabitha Eason #8533, b. Feb 12 1847, d. Dec 1918. Jesse died after 1900.

### 3rd Great Grand Parents

48. **Needham Judge Alford** #8287 b. Jul 12 1789, North Carolina, occupation minister, m. Feb 18 1815, in Franklin Co., MS, **49. Martha Waddell** #8288, b. May 15 1798, South Carolina, d. Nov 7 1876, Limestone Co., TX, buried: Horton Hill Cem., Limestone Co., TX. Needham died Sep 19 1869, Groesbeck, Limestone Co., TX, buried: Horton Hill Cem., Limestone Co., TX.

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4th Great Grand Parents

96. **Jacob Alford** #25 b. Aug 15 1761, Franklin Co., NC, ref: JAC761NC, occupation farmer, m. (1) about 1784, in North Carolina, **97. Elizabeth Bryant** #5173, b. Jun 20 1765, d. 1789-92, Cumberland Co., NC, m. (2) about 1792, in probably Cumberland Co., NC, Frankie Seaborn #26, b. about 1770, North Carolina, d. about 1859, Washington Pa., LA. Jacob died Jul 16 1824, Washington Pa., LA.

5th Great Grand Parents

192. **Julius Alford** #27 b. Sep 1717, St. Peter's Parish, New Kent Co., VA, ref: JUL717VA, occupation farmer, m.  
**193. Lucy** \_\_\_\_\_ #28, d. after 1790, Franklin Co., NC. Julius died 1771, Bute Co., NC.

6th Great Grand Parents

384. **James Alford** #29 b. about 1687, probably New Kent Co., VA.

7th Great Grand Parents

768. **John Alford** #4656 b. about 1645, probably Virginia, died Mar 14 1710, New Kent Co., VA.

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**#1401 Jeffrey Scott Alford**

**BAI781NC/JAM687VA**

**Brownsville, TX**

1. **Jeffrey Scott Alford** #12014 b. private, Texas, m. **Deborah L. Gonzales** #13422.

Parents

2. **Jimmie Joe Alford** #12011 b. private, Waco, McLennan Co., TX, m. private, 3. **Glenda Lanelle Brackin** #12012, b. private. Jim and Glenda are AAFA charter members #0202

Grand Parents

4. **Claris Marshall Alford** #12005 b. Aug 2 1903, Bell Co., TX, occupation salesman, m. Dec 22 1928, in Waco, McLennan Co., TX, **5. Daisy Mae Wetzel** #12006, b. May 26 1908. Claris died Nov 27 1988, buried: Brownsville, Cameron Co., TX.

Great Grand Parents

8. **Marshall A. Alford** #11997 b. Feb 2 1872, Hamilton Co., TX, m. Aug 6 1893, in Erath Co., TX, **9. Bertha Pettijohn** #11998, b. Feb 1872, Texas, d. Oct 1950, McLennan Co., TX, buried: Rosemound Cem., Waco, McLennan Co., TX. Marshall died Feb 20 1933, McLennan Co., TX, buried: Rosemound Cem., Waco, McLennan Co., TX.

Great Great Grand Parents

16. **John Rankin Alford** #11987 b. Jan 18 1834, Lawrence Co., TN, m. (1) Jul 17 1859, in Freestone Co., TX, **17. Martha Ann Malone** #11988, b. Sep 14 1841, Copiah Co., MS, d. Dec 20 1876, Hico, Hamilton Co., TX, buried: Old Hico Cem., Hamilton Co., TX, m. (2) Mar 8 1877, in Erath Co., TX, Lerona Elizabeth King #11989, b. Sep 7 1859, Collin Co., TX, d. Apr 25 1940, Dallas, Dallas Co., TX, buried: Hico City Cem., Hico, Hamilton Co.

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TX. John died Apr 1 1928, Hamilton Co., TX, buried: Hico City Cem., Hico, Hamilton Co. TX.

3rd Great Grand Parents

32. **Alsey Alford** #7165 b. Sep 20 1802, Franklin Co., NC, m. 1825, in Lawrence Co., TN, **33. Celia Williams** #7175, b. 1801, North Carolina, d. 1886, Texas. Alsey died 1854, Galveston Co., TX.

4th Great Grand Parents

64. **Ira Bailey Alford** #7163 b. Jul 15 1781, Franklin Co., NC, m. Jul 24 1800, in Franklin Co., NC, **65. Nancy Williams** #7164, b. Jul 25 1780, Wake Co., NC, d. Mar 21 1863, Lawrence Co., TN. Ira died 1836-40, Lawrence Co., TN.

5th Great Grand Parents

128. **Isaac Alford** #5168 b. about 1748, Bute Co., NC, ref: ISA748NC, m. **129. Mary Alford** #7096, b. estimate 1755, Bute Co., NC, d. Franklin Co., NC. Isaac died Franklin Co., NC ?.

6th Great Grand Parents

256. **Julius Alford** #27 b. Sep 1717, St. Peter's Parish, New Kent Co., VA, ref: JUL717VA, occupation farmer, m. **257. Lucy** \_\_\_\_\_ #28, d. after 1790, Franklin Co., NC. Julius died 1771, Bute Co., NC.

258. **Lodwick Alford** #3085 b. about 1710, New Kent Co., VA, ref: LOD710VA, m. (1) Elizabeth Cade #4641, b. Apr 29 1717, New Kent Co., VA, d. May 29 1735, New Kent Co., VA, m. (2) Susanna Cade #3086, b. Sep 25 1718, m. (3) **259. Sarah Smith** #4651. Lodwick died 1800, Franklin Co., NC.

7th Great Grand Parents

512./ 516. **James Alford** #29 b. about 1687, probably New Kent Co., VA.

8th Great Grand Parents

1024. **John Alford** #4656 b. about 1645, probably Virginia, died Mar 14 1710, New Kent Co., VA.

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**#1402 Cathryn Marie Alford McLeod**                      **JOH875MS\*/JAM687VA**                      **San Antonio, TX**

1. **Cathryn Marie Alford** #34889 m. **William C. McLeod** #34892.

Parents

2. **John William Alford** #34866 b. Jan 13 1906, Lafayette Co., MS, m. **3. Jettie Louise Hathcock** #34884, b. Jan 23 1917, Mulkey, Carter Co., OK.

Grand Parents

4. **John Franklin Pierce Alford** #34859 b. Mar 13 1875, Lafayette Co., MS, m. **5. Molly Amelia Smith** #34883, b. 1878, Chickasaw Co., MS.

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John Franklin was enumerated with his birth parents in 1880 as well as with his adopted parents to be.

The following covers what we know of the pierce ancestry. The following was pasted in from the Hiram P. Pierce record as the software will not follow the ancestry of two sets of parents

Family tradition says that the parents died in a cholera epidemic. The older children, who could work, were taken by families to raise in exchange for their help. The younger children were adopted.

**Pierce CENSUS:**

1850 22 Oct, District 31, Forsyth Co., GA: Robt Saxon 65 GA, Nancy Saxon 70, NC, Elizabeth Peorce NC, Hiram Peorce 15 GA. Elizabeth Peorce was probably Elizabeth Driskell.

1860 20 Sep, Paris PO, Lafayette Co., MS: Hiram Pierce 22 GA, Fanny 18 TN

1870 5 Aug, Twp 7, Caswell PO, Lafayette Co., MS, pg 25/241, house 181, family 181: Hiram Pierce 34 farmer GA, F. F. 25 F TN, C.J. 10 M MS, J.R. 9 M MS, M.E. 8 M MS, Robt E Lee 3 M MS, Mary J 2 mo F MS Hiram P. Pierce married Fannie F. Cogwell Feb 22 1860 in Lafayette Co., MS

1880 21 Jun, Lafayette Co., MS, pg 30, house 275, family 275: H.P. 45 GA, Calup J. 18 M son MS, Margaret E. 15 dau MS, Mary L. 10 MS, Robert L. 12 MS, Florence 7 MS, John F. 5 MS

6. **Charles Caristie Hathcock** #34885 m. 7. **Florence Sims** #34886.

Great Grand Parents

8. **George Washington Alford** #27276 b. Jul 14 1842, Tallahatchie Co., MS, m. Sep 23 1864, in Lafayette Co., MS, 9. **Mary Jane Anderson** #27283, b. Jul 16 1845, Lafayette Co., MS, d. about 1817, buried: Midway Prebs. Cem., Lafayette Co., MS. George died Jan 17 1914, Lafayette Co., MS, buried: Midway Prebs. Cem., Lafayette Co., MS.

Great Great Grand Parents

16. **Hudson Alford** #27241 b. about 1805, North Carolina, m. 17. **Mahala Owen** #27248, b. about 1812, South Carolina, d. 1855, Tallahatchie Co., MS. Hudson died before Jan 1853, Tallahatchie Co., MS.

3rd Great Grand Parents

32. **Cade Alford** #27237 b. about 1771, North Carolina, m. 33. **Elizabeth Crudup** #27238, b. about 1785, North Carolina, d. before 1840, Tallahatchie Co., MS. Cade died before Nov 1842, Tallahatchie Co., MS.

4th Great Grand Parents

64. **James Lodwick Alford** #25958 b. Feb 7 1749, Edgecombe Co., NC, m. 65. **Susannah Ross** #25959, b. 1752, North Carolina, d. 1831, Wake Co., NC. James died 1820, Wake Co., NC. Maybe born in Bute County.

5th Great Grand Parents

128. **Lodwick Alford** #3085 b. about 1710, New Kent Co., VA, ref: LOD710VA, m. (1) Elizabeth Cade #4641, b. Apr 29 1717, New Kent Co., VA, d. May 29 1735, New Kent Co., VA, m. (2) Susanna Cade #3086, b. Sep 25 1718, m. (3) 129. **Sarah Smith** #4651. Lodwick died 1800, Franklin Co., NC.

6th Great Grand Parents

256. **James Alford** #29 b. about 1687, probably New Kent Co., VA.

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7th Great Grand Parents

512. **John Alford** #4656 b. about 1645, probably Virginia, died Mar 14 1710, New Kent Co., VA.

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#1403 **Celia Caroline Alford Beaty**                      **LOD802NC/DRU767NC?**                      **Lawrenceville, GA**

1. **Celia Caroline Alford** #27677 b. private, Atlanta, GA, m. private, in Lawrenceville, Gwinnett Co., GA, **Roy Beaty, Jr.** #35340.

Parents

2. **James Arthur Alford** #27666 b. Feb 24 1894, Gwinnett Co., GA, m. **3. Celia Ada Kelley** #27676, b. May 29 1902, Lilburn, Gwinnett Co., GA, d. Jun 12 1997, Lawrenceville, Gwinnett Co., GA. James died Aug 5 1949, Lawrenceville, Gwinnett Co., GA.

Grand Parents

4. **James Alvin Alford** #27628 b. Mar 12 1852, South Carolina, m. **5. Emma Ophelia Kelley** #27658, b. Sep 16 1867, Gwinnett Co., GA, d. Oct 8 1954, Lawrenceville, Gwinnett Co., GA. James died Jul 6 1917, Gloster, Gwinnett Co. GA.

Great Grand Parents

8. **Joseph Alford** #27623 b. about 1822, North Carolina, m. **9. Mary Snipes** #27624, b. about 1828, South Carolina, d. before 1886, Georgia. Joseph died about 1885, Georgia.

Great Great Grand Parents

16. **Lodwick Alford** #25963 b. May 30 1802, Anderson Co., SC, m. (1) **17. Unknown** \_\_\_\_\_ #27622, m. (2) **Alsie Snipes Kelly** #25964, b. Aug 19 1823, South Carolina, d. May 13 1909. Lodwick died Apr 25 1873, Georgia.

3rd Great Grand Parents

32. **Drury Cade "Kaderor" Alford** #25961 b. 1767 ??, Wake Co., NC, m. (1) about 1787, in North Carolina, **33. Aprey Hunt** #25962, b. Mar 22 1766, d. Nov 18 1839, m. (2) **Elizabeth** \_\_\_\_\_ #26040. Drury died Aug 27 1811, Wake Co., NC.

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#1404 **Jennifer Eden Alford Slonaker**                      **WIL804GA/JAM687VA**                      **Summit, MS**

1. **Jennifer Eden Alford** #10208 b. private, m. (1) divorced 1996, **David Miller** #21749, m. (2) **Glen May** #21752, b. private, d. private, Pike Co., MS, m. (3) private, **Jed Randall Slonaker** #35337.

Parents

2. **Vernon Eugene Alford** #10205 b. Feb 8 1951, Tylertown, Walthall Co., MS, m. (1) divorced, **3. Jane Ellen Simmons** #10206, b. Aug 6 1953, m. (2) Sep 25 1993, in Jackson, Hinds Co., MS, Virginia "Breeze" Pierce #21754, b. Feb 18 1957, New Albany, Union Co., MS.

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Grand Parents

4. **Samuel Eugene Alford** #5324 b. Mar 26 1928, Tylertown, Walthall Co., MS, m. **5. Madron H. Harvey** #5331, b. Feb 8 1931, Walthall Co., MS, d. Apr 18 1991, Lamar Co., MS, buried: Elliott Cemetery, Tylertown, MS. Samuel is AAFA member #1353.

Great Grand Parents

8. **Samuel Nathaniel Alford** #5294 b. Aug 29 1885, Pike Co., MS, m. Apr 8 1908, in Pike Co., MS, **9. Hattie Jane Magee** #5303, b. Aug 6 1890, d. Apr 18 1973. Samuel died Jul 8 1961, buried: Elliott Cemetery, Tylertown, MS.

Great Great Grand Parents

16. **Needham Jasper Alford** #3611 b. Sep 21 1862, Pike Co., MS, m. (1) Dec 22 1887, in Lawrence Co., MS, **17. Nancy Isobella Collins** #3677, b. Dec 6 1864, Lawrence Co., MS, d. Jan 20 1894, Pike Co., MS, buried: Walthall Co., MS, m. (2) Oct 13 1896, in Pike Co., MS, Lucy Margaret Collins #3678, b. Sep 11 1856, Lawrence Co., MS. Needham died Nov 21 1907, Pike Co., MS, buried: Bacot Cemetery, Walthall Co., MS.

3rd Great Grand Parents

32. **Henderson Alford** #1259 b. about 1829, Pike Co., MS, m. **33. Frances Sibley** #1268, b. Jun 20 1843, Mississippi, d. Feb 20 1900, buried: Bacot Cemetery, Walthall Co., MS. Henderson buried: John Bascot Place. Henderson served in the Civil War and is supposed to have died during the siege of Port Hudson and is presumably buried there.

4th Great Grand Parents

64. **William Alford** #1206 b. about 1804, Georgia, ref: WIL804GA, m. about 1828, **65. Eveline Ginn** #1212, b. about 1809, Mississippi. William died after 1860, Pike Co., MS.

5th Great Grand Parents

128. **Jacob Alford** #25 b. Aug 15 1761, Franklin Co., NC, ref: JAC761NC, occupation farmer, m. (1) about 1784, in North Carolina, Elizabeth Bryant #5173, b. Jun 20 1765, d. 1789-92, Cumberland Co., NC, m. (2) about 1792, in probably Cumberland Co., NC, **129. Frankie Seaborn** #26, b. about 1770, North Carolina, d. about 1859, Washington Pa., LA. Jacob died Jul 16 1824, Washington Pa., LA.

6th Great Grand Parents

256. **Julius Alford** #27 b. Sep 1717, St. Peter's Parish, New Kent Co., VA, ref: JUL717VA, occupation farmer, m. **257. Lucy** \_\_\_\_\_ #28, d. after 1790, Franklin Co., NC. Julius died 1771, Bute Co., NC.

7th Great Grand Parents

512. **James Alford** #29 b. about 1687, probably New Kent Co., VA.

8th Great Grand Parents

1024. **John Alford** #4656 b. about 1645, probably Virginia, died Mar 14 1710, New Kent Co., VA.

**THEY SHALL BE KNOWN BY THE COMPANY THEY KEPT  
AND THE LAND UPON WHICH THEY LIVED:  
ALFORDS, BOYKINS, CADES, ROGERS AND WOOTENS**

*PART TWO OF A SERIES*

We began this series with *"Finding Sarah Alford"* in the previous issue.

*By Milton Folds, AAFA #0049, AAFA Hall of Fame*

James Alford, son of Lodwick and Susannah Cade Alford, was Roberta Alford Folds' fourth great-grandfather. James married Lurana Boykin about 1768-69 in North Carolina, probably in Johnston County. Despite years of searching for the identity of Lurana's parents nothing was found that would prove, conclusively, who they were.

There was no shortage of Boykins in Eastern North Carolina at the time of Lurana's marriage to James Alford. The Boykins moved to Bertie County, North Carolina from Virginia before November 1724. Edgecombe and Northampton counties were carved from Bertie in 1741 and Boykins were still found in those counties several years later. Johnston County was created from Craven in 1746; Dobbs from Johnston in 1758; Granville from Edgecombe in 1748; Halifax from Edgecombe in 1758; Bute from Granville in 1764. At one time or another Boykins were found living in each county. We initially focused our search on records of all of these counties and compiled considerable Boykin information but made no firm connection to Lurana Boykin and her parents.

From time to time we put our Boykin search on the back burner returning, periodically, when new information came to our attention. Ultimately our concentration was narrowed to the Boykins found in Edgecombe, Johnston, and Northampton counties. We learned that James Alford lived in Johnston County by 1769 and it was unlikely that he would have traveled to either Northampton or Edgecombe counties to court and marry Lurana Boykin. We needed to find records/evidence that put the future bride and groom living near each other before their marriage. We further narrowed our concentration to the Boykins of Johnston County.

The old genealogy adage: "... in a courtship, remember that the male would have likely worked himself and his horse/mule/oxen in the field from sun up until sundown; went home; fed his animal and himself; bathed and got into his courting clothes; walked or rode his work animal to his intended's home; courted her and then returned home early enough that man and beast could get sufficient rest to be back in the field at sun up the next day." How far was it from his home to that of his intended? Probably less than five miles! The other admonition of vital importance was: FOLLOW THE LAND RECORDS! We did exactly that and, ultimately, it paid off big time!

Our major land break came when a Cade friend (a descendant of Robert Cade) sent us a copy of a Northampton County deed which, if found 20 years earlier, would have saved both of us years of work and frustration. But that is the nature of genealogical research. I am deeply indebted to him for his sharing such vital information. It was invaluable to our search for Roberta's third great-grandmother's parents and enabled us to confirm that we were, at last, on the right track.

The Northampton County deed we received:

*"This indenture made the 27th of June 1781 Between Michael Rogers, James Alford and Drury Cade of the County of Wake and State of North Carolina of the one part and Benjamin Branch of the County of Northampton of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Michael Rogers, James Alford and Drury Cade for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and seventy pounds Ten Shilling true money to them in hand paid by the said Benjamin Branch. The receipt whereof of the said Michael Rogers, James Alford and Drury Cade who intermarried with Celia Boykin, Winifred Boykin and Susannah Boykin Co heirs with Thomas*



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*Boykin do acknowledge hath granted Bargained and sold aliened Enfroffed and Confirmed and by these presents doth grant Bargain and sell alien Enfroff and Confirm unto the said Benjamin Branch his heirs and assigns forever one certain tract of land lying and being in the County of Northampton on the South side of Meherrin River Containing by Estimation four hundred and twenty Acres by the same more or less and Bounded as followed Beginning at a gum in the Low grounds Rebeccah Braswells old corner tree then along this line South 65 degrees East 320 poles to the center of two pines and a red oak in his line 55 degrees West 466 poles to a white oak in Mayes Branch thence along the Branch North 38 West 68 poles to a pine in the Mays line then along his line North 5 East 160 poles to a cypress on the River side Mays corner thence running the remainder of the River to the first station with all trees wood underwood profits advantages Heridatements whatsoever to the plantation or tract of land belonging or in any wise appertaining and also the Revision and Revisions Remainder and Remainders Rents services of the premises and Every part thereof and also all of the Estate Right Title Interest alain and Demand whatsoever of them the said Michael Rogers James Alford and Drury Cade their heirs... .. and Every part thereof against them and their heirs and against all and every other person or persons whatsoever unto the said Benjamin Branch his heirs and assigns shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents.*

*In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals the day and year first above written. Signed Sealed & Delivered in the presents of us*

*Michael Rogers seal*

*Drury Cade seal*

*James Vaughn James Sikes*

*Northampton County December Court 1781 This Deed was proved by James Sikes & ordered to be Reg. Test: Jeph Atheron C. Ct. This deed was registered March 10<sup>th</sup> day 1782. Test: James Dancy P. Register."*

This single page document revealed that: (1) James Alford, Michael Rogers and Drury Cade were married to sisters and therefore brothers in law; (2) it was the first confirmation that Lurana Boykin Alford was named Winifred ( not surprising that she had passed on the name to one of her daughters) in addition to, or instead of, Lurana; (3) by 1781 the three families were living in Wake County and not Johnston County; (4) Susannah, Winifred and Celia had either a brother, father or other close relative named Thomas Boykin who also lived in Wake County; and (5) the land in question was located on the South Side of the Meherrin River in Northampton County; Rebeccah Braswell was, or had been, an adjoining property owner; and the reference to a Mayes Branch and Mays Corner could indicate that a family by that name was, or had been, an owner of adjoining property.

Finding the name of the previous owner or owners of this more than 400 acre tract could prove to be the answer we had searched for and, hopefully, lead us to the parents of the Boykin sisters. FOLLOW THE LAND! Suddenly my genealogy cup runneth over!

We welcomed the opportunity to learn more about James Alford and his family, prior to their move to Georgia about 1783-84. This prompted research efforts to switch to Wake County's extant Court records. I found an active Thomas Boykin but no reference to his father or other relatives. I concluded that it was best to first focus on the records of the Alford's of Wake County and then return to Edgecombe, Johnston and Northampton counties and look for connecting links to Thomas Boykin. A report on the results will be offered at a later date. Reporting on Alford mothers, wives, and daughters will continue to be my main interest. I want to put as much "meat on the bones" as possible. Birth, marriage and death records are vital but reveal only a very small portion of their lives.

Prior to the discovery of this Northampton County deed we knew that Michael Rogers had married a Celia Boykin and Drury Cades' first born son was named Drury Boykin Cade. But, heretofore, had found no evidence to suggest a connection with James Alford's marriage to Lurana, (now Winifred) Boykin. Land records and wills confirmed that James, Michael, (son of Joseph Rogers); Drury, (son of Robert Cade, Jr., and cousin of James

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Alford) were neighbors in Johnston County living on, or near, the Neuse River. James and Michael lived on adjoining properties, proven by the will of John Rogers, Michael's father. We also knew that a Thomas Boykin had, at one time, lived on the Neuse River and suspected that it might be in that same area of Johnston County. We had long ago stopped believing in coincidences! We had, in essence, been searching records from 1770 forward in the right church but wrong pew!

We had known for many years that James Alford's son Collin Alford, Roberta's second great-grandfather, had married Phereba Wooten, daughter of James Wooten and Faith Rogers. Collin's brother Kinchen married Faith's sister Asenath. We long suspected that Faith and Michael Rogers were brother and sister but did not have evidence to determine identity of their parents. Collin Wooten, brother of Phereba and Asenath married Phereba Alford, Collin's sister. I was somewhat overwhelmed in reading the records of the very first session of the Wake County Court, held June 4, 1771, that Thomas Wooten was chosen as Justice of the Court; Michael Rogers was chosen as Sheriff and James Alford was named Michael's deputy. Speaking of a stacked deck! All three had been friends and neighbors in Johnston County. It was tempting to expand my search and include the Wootens, but recognizing that my primary reason for searching early Wake County records was to learn as much as possible about James Alford and James Lodwick Alford, I concluded that I would include the Wooten connections in another story mentioned earlier. However, since Drury Cade was a part of the important revelation of the marriages to the Boykin sisters I do believe that his connection should be expanded upon.

Earlier records stated that Drury Cade "...went back to North Carolina from Georgia when his grandfather Robert Cade, Sr., died in 1769 but had returned to Georgia soon thereafter". The Wake County records would confirm that he lived in Wake County until he returned to Georgia in the mid to late 1780s. It is quite possible that he actually returned to Georgia with James Alford, Michael Rogers and the Wootens when they moved from Wake County. Drury and James never returned to North Carolina from Georgia to live but Michael Rogers returned to Wake County and lived there until his death about 1793. James and Drury died in Georgia.

When my attention turned to Wake County, I recalled that years earlier we visited the late Captain Lodwick "Wick" Alford at his home at Sea Island, Georgia. Soon after our arrival at Sea Island Wick took great pride in permitting us to examine a walking stick whose original owner was, purportedly, his third great-grandfather James Lodwick Alford. He told us that this grandfather was a pioneer of Wake County, North Carolina and the walking stick was, in his judgment, genealogical proof that his third great-grandfather was named James Lodwick Alford. The walking stick in question was encircled by a brass band inscribed with the name James Lodwick Alford. We believed the inscribed band alone would not be considered of great genealogical value by a professional genealogist. After all, anybody could put a brass band around a walking stick. He made no reference to any other genealogical data that would confirm/support his claim.

Wick urged us to help him find "additional evidence" proving to AAFA "skeptics" that a James Lodwick Alford had lived in Wake County, North Carolina and was not the son of "Old Lod" Alford. In later correspondence with Roberta, Wick again urged us to "help find the evidence," before the next annual meeting of AAFA, which could silence his naysayers. We agreed to take a look "if we ever had reason to search Wake County records". The unexpected turn of events on the Boykin search was, at long last, taking me to Wake County looking for James Alford and other Alford's, including James Lodwick. Sadly, Captain Wick Alford and my Roberta are now both deceased.

A friendly bantering went on for several years between Gil Alford and his late dear friend Wick Alford on the true identity of James Lodwick Alford. I now welcomed the opportunity to explore Wake County records for evidence that might shed light on the subject. Wick's "naysayers" were convinced that his great-great-great-grandfather was none other than Lodwick Alford, Jr., son of "Old" Lodwick. Wick was just as convinced that his James Lodwick was not the son of "Old" Lodwick but of another James Alford. The only James Alford proven to

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be in North Carolina at the time was “Old” Lodwick’s son (Roberta’s ancestor), who was born in 1740. Wick’s James Lodwick Alford was born about 1749.

The following narrative will cover those records which are considered relevant to James Lodwick Alford and other Alford. They cover the extant Court records beginning in 1771 and ending in 1802. Not every reference found will be included herein but only those which appear to provide further insight into the James Lodwick Alford story, as well as to other Alford, and their role/s in the early days of the new County of Wake.

#### THE ALFORD RECORDS OF WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Wake County was created in 1771 from portions of three existing North Carolina counties: Johnston, Orange and Cumberland. The area taken from Johnston County included land along the Neuse River where James Alford lived. This James was already proven to be the son of Lodwick Alford, Sr. and he did not move from Johnson County to Wake County but like his neighbors, was “annexed by law” from Johnston County to the new County of Wake.

It is often said that it takes a whole community to raise a child. In genealogical research, that same adage can, and should, be remembered. Many times it becomes as important to learn as much about your ancestor’s neighbors as you do for the ancestor. It is good to remember that in Colonial days the families married “kith and kin” or friends and family. When they moved from one area to another, they rarely traveled alone but with “kith and kin”. The Alford confirmed the importance of this adage many times over. In early Wake County the Boykins, Cades, Rogers, Popes and Wootens are among the families most often connected to the Alford, all coming to Wake from Johnston County and ultimately on to Georgia.

#### MINUTES OF THE COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSIONS

The **first Wake County Court Session was convened on June 4, 1771**. Michael Rogers was selected, or appointed, Sheriff of the new county. James Alford and Michael’s brother John were appointed as his Deputies. Thomas Wooten was named as a Justice of the Court. These families all came from Johnston County. The Alford and Wootens became very close with several marriages between the two families after both moved to Georgia. Subsequent records prove that the Alford, Boykins, Rogers and Wootens were respected and important citizens of Wake County for many years. But that is, possibly, another story.

In the **May Court Session of 1773** James Alford was appointed as a juror in the case of Thomas Higgins vs Dempsey Speirs; Dempsey Powell was appointed Constable in the room (meetings were often held in the home of participants, thus “the room”) of Thomas Boykin. Lodwick Alford appeared in a case brought against John James. This was the first appearance of Lodwick Alford in the Court records. I suspect that he had lived in the county for some time before this case appeared, possibly living with James Alford. He would have been about 24 years old at the time.

In this same **May Court Session of 1773**, Michael Rogers was sworn as Justice of the Court; a deed from Robert Rabun to Lodwick Alford was duly approved by the oath of James Alford; a deed from Mosias (?) Jones and his wife to LODWICK ALFORD, JR., was approved by the oath of James Alford and ordered to be registered; James Alford applied for leave to keep a Public House in “this county” which was granted on his giving bond agreeable to law; and James Alford was appointed as Juror to attend Hillsboro Court. A “public House” was, in essence, an Ordinary and was likely a continuation of James Alford’s Ordinary on the Neuse River in Johnson County. Most Ordinaries of the period were located on or near a river since many settlers used the river for transportation. There is some previous evidence which suggests that Lodwick Alford, Sr., and/or James kept an Ordinary on the Tar River.

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In the **December Court Session of 1774**, The Court named those to serve on the Grand Jury, including Drury Cade, Burwell Pope, John and Aaron Rogers. The latter two being brothers of Michael Rogers. A deed from Nathan Grimes to James Alford and Thomas Crawford was presented in open court and proved by Drury Cade.

At the **March, 1775 Session of the Court**, James Alford named as juror; Lodwick Alford and Josiah Crudup were appointed "Processioners" in Captain Fowler's District and James Alford was named same for Captain Michael Roger's District.

At the **June 1775 Session**, the Court ordered James Alford, LODWICK ALFORD, JR., Burwell Pope, Josiah Crudup, Aaron Rogers and John Rogers to serve as jurors. Lodwick Alford was appointed "Patroler" in Captain Fowler's District; James Alford and Thomas Crawford were appointed same in Captain Roger's District. In a suit versus Travis Harper, James Alford was awarded 10 pounds and five shilling.

At the **September 5, 1775 Session** of the Court, reports of the Processioners were received. Such reports were listed numerically from 1 to 122, suggesting that there were only 122 land owners in Wake County at the time. Lodwick Alford was listed at No. 97 with 100 acres, likely the property he bought from Robert Rabon in September 1774. He was also listed as LODWICK ALFORD, JR., at number 110. He had processioned this parcel himself. Number of acres was not given but returned as a "tract". This tract was in Captain Fowler's District. Josiah Crudup's land was Number 109, likely making him the next door neighbor of Lodwick.

In is significant to note that Lodwick Alford processioned his own land, reported 100 acres and named "owner" as LODWICK ALFORD, JR. This might well prove to be the most important reference in that he named himself LODWICK ALFORD, JR.

At the **December 5, 1775 Session** of the Court a deed from James Alford and Thomas Crawford to Richard Robertson was approved and entered; Drury Cade posted bail for a defendant before the Court and James Alford was appointed overseer of road in the room of George Grimes.

Records for 1776 thru 1789 were not found in abstracted Wake County Court records. The North Carolina Archives have been contacted requesting their assistance in determining whether or not records are extant for this period. However, in Francis Holloway Wynne's 1985 edition of *Abstract of Records of Wills, Inventories and Settlement of Estates, 1771-1802, Wake County, North Carolina*, there is important and relevant information on the Alfords and collateral families.

In **Book D**, page 30, May 1797 Governor Speight appointed Lodwick Alford Sheriff of Wake County. On June 15, 1792 Isham and Warren Alford were "paid" in account of Thomas Lee Carpenter by Administrator Burwell Carpenter.

In **Book E**, will of Frederick Spane, January 20, 1793 and May 1798, Executors named were "Friends" Michael Rogers, Thomas Hines and LODWICK ALFORD, JR. Thus, some 25 years after Lodwick Alford, Jr., first appeared in Court records he was still known as Lodwick, Jr., in Wake County!

In **Book A**, October 20, 1783, Mary Kimborough, orphan of Nathaniel Kimborough, Julius Alford apparently purchased a horse from the estate and was listed as a "buyer" at the estate sale of James Hillsman, Registered, July, 1785.

In the will of Willis Jones, reg. January 28, 1780, "Friend LODWICK ALFORD, JR., named as Executor. In Book A the will of Edward Earp, reg. May 8, 1784, LODWICK ALFORD, JR., named as witness. Again, in **Book A**, January 24, 1784, LODWICK ALFORD, JR., named Executor, in the will of John Cannon.

Michael Rogers' will was found in **Book D**, naming his wife and ten children, two given same names of the children of his brother-in-law, James Alford: Allen and Sarah. Genealogical research often turns on the naming of children. James Alford's daughter, Sarah Hart Alford is considered a vital clue to finding the parents or grandparents of Winifred Lurana Alford. It appears that two of the Boykin sisters, Winifred and "Celia" made certain that a beloved mother, or grandmother, was remembered by naming daughters after her.

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In **Book C**, reg. April 27, 1793, the estate of Joshua Spain, deceased, paid Lodwick Alford, Esq., Warren Alford, Esq., and Drury Alford. April 4, 1789, no monetary amount given. The title "Esq" suggests that each named held some kind of public office, probably Justice of the Court.

In **Book C**, in report of his father's estate, Cullen Earp, "current account" January 11, 1794 "paid .....Warren Alford, Esq. and Lodwick Alford. Lodwick was reported as Guardian.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

One of the puzzling aspects of this search was finding that James Alford never served as a Justice of the Court of Wake County but certainly had the political clout, through family and friends, to have received such had he wanted to serve. What makes this the most puzzling is that a James Alford served as Justice of the same Court in Bute County for several years. Ample evidence proves that James Alford of Wake County was the son of Old Lodwick but was he the same James who served in Bute County?

Conversations were held with the late Captain Wick Alford, most often at the annual AAFA Membership Meetings, and the subject never really changed: James Lodwick Alford! Circumstances did not afford an opportunity to spend longer periods of time with him and get more closely acquainted. He was retired and I was still gainfully employed. At the time he was unequivocally convinced that his third great-grandfather was not the son of "Old Lodwick Alford". In retrospect, it might be best that I did not study the Wake County records before his death. It was not easy to change Wick's mind, no matter the facts, especially when the subject was his third great-grandfather! However, Gil recently reviewed old AAFA correspondence and came upon a letter from Wick which seemed to indicate that maybe his "naysayers" were correct all along.

I have enjoyed the pleasure of teaching genealogical research to seniors at my church for the past 10 years and Wick's belief in the genealogical value of the banded walking stick is typical of persons who have no previous genealogical research experience. They want to start their family search with a story or document that has been handed down from generation to generation (most often from the family bible) and considered, without doubt, the absolute truth. Often it has been difficult to convince them to begin with themselves, work backwards in time, generation by generation and prove each along the way.

To this end, one member of the class, a retired medical doctor, was convinced that his great-grandfather had abandoned his family and was never heard from again. He had no interest in searching for a man who was guilty of such conduct. He knew it was true because his father and grandfather had told him the story. He was reluctant to even share the name of his ancestor. Finally, he gave his name to me but insisted that he had no interest in finding anything about him. He was certain that should anything be found it would be the names of a second family. Research determined that his great-grandfather had served as an officer in the Confederate Army, died in battle, left a will and his widow never married again. She ultimately received a widow's pension. The doctor's grandfather might have been left out of his father's will.

I am convinced that there is more than a grain of truth about the history of the walking stick. The first owner was, most likely, Lodwick Alford of Wake County, North Carolina. When Lodwick died about 1820 the stick was not mentioned in his will. It was possibly left in his personal possessions, without the brass band, until his wife, Susannah, either gave it to one of their children or it was found in her possessions after her death and one of the children claimed it. It was handed down though one or more generations until reaching Captain Lodwick "Wick" Alford. Along the way the brass band was attached so to identify it for future generations. If they first looked in Wake County records it may have been confusing to find records of a James Alford and a Lodwick Alford and concluded they were one and same person.

## Photos: Houston Meeting, 1989

On this page are two of three panned shots taken of the meeting audience at the 2<sup>nd</sup> AAFA meeting which was held in Houston, TX in 1989. To really appreciate them you would have had to been in attendance at the 1988 meeting in Atlanta, GA where we had a total of 13 persons present. None of those shown in the first photo at the left were present in Atlanta, but in the second photo on the second row back are the late Eleanor (Mrs. Charles) Alford of Georgia and the late Elizabeth Alford Williams of Mississippi. They met in Atlanta, became close friends, appear here and were together again in 1990 at the meeting in North Carolina. They both died of cancer in 1993, Liz in January and Eleanor in March.



Others at the 1989 meeting who were present in Atlanta were the late Capt., Lodwick H. Alford, US Navy Retired, of Georgia first AAFA president, the late Julius

M. "Pooley" Alford, of Mississippi, the first AAFA treasurer, and Gil Alford, of Missouri, who created the Association in 1987. The three of them made up the original board of directors. None of these were in these photographs as they were seated at a front table or at the podium speaking.

One other group of people very important to the highly successful Houston meeting are not shown in either of these group shots. They are the late D.L. Alford, Jr., his wife, the late Catherine Alford, and their sons James J. and Daniel Lee and their wives. D.L. and Landon Alford seated on the second row in white shirt in the first photo were co-hosts of the 1989 meeting and they and their families and other Texas members bore the entire cost of the meeting—including the outstanding buffet served during the reception Friday evening.

Anyone interested in having image file copies of the three group audience shots along with more detailed explanation of those shown may have them by sending an email to [alford\\_staff@alfordassociation.org](mailto:alford_staff@alfordassociation.org). If you are not online and desire the photos then send a note to AAFA, POB 1297, Florissant, MO 63031-1297.

